

The Crucial Role of Genetic Resources in Ensuring Food Security in a Changing Climate

Wednesday 13 May 2009 at 1.15–2.45 pm

Private Dining Rooms 6–8 at the UN Headquarters, New York

Lunch buffet is served

The Nordic event focuses on the conservation and sustainable utilization of genetic resources. The Nordic countries have a well established regional co-operation for this purpose and have also actively assisted in developing similar solutions in other regions, for example in the SADC region in Africa. These questions have become even more topical due to a changing climate: improved access to genetic resources is crucial for ensuring sufficient global food production.

Programme

Welcome Icelandic chairmanship of the Nordic Council of Ministers: Gunnar Pálsson, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Iceland to the United Nations

Nordic visions on regional solutions to ensure food security in a changing climate
Marjatta Rasi, Under-Secretary of State, Finland

Global relevance of sustainable utilization of genetic resources
Cary Fowler, Executive Director, Global Crop Diversity Trust

Experiences and results from the Nordic-African co-operation projects
Paul Munyenembe, Head of SADC Plant Genetic resources centre (SPGRC)

Panel discussion
Ilse Köhler-Rollefson, Projects Coordinator, League for Pastoral Peoples and Endogenous Livestock Development; Brian Halweil, Senior Researcher, Worldwatch Institute; Alexander Müller, Assistant Director-General, FAO

Closing remarks
Gunnar Pálsson, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Iceland to the United Nations

Moderator: Jessica Kathle, Director, Nordic Genetic Resource Center (NordGen)

For more information www.norden.org/CSD17



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